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DETAILS OF MINISTRY REORGANIZATION LAW REVEALED

PY230030 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1330 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Dec (TELAM) -- The executive branch has approved and promulgated the new ministries law, introducing slight modifications to the former law. This new law reduces from 13 to 10 the ministries through which President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri will have to rule. The following ministries will be in charge of handling the government's negotiations: Interior, Foreign Relations and Worship, Justice, Defense, Economy, Public Works and Services, Education, Labor, Public Health and Environment and Social Action. It is understood that the new instrument will create the conditions required for the new cabinet to meet the efficiency requirements called for by the country's present situation.

The message preceding the text of the law recognizes that the former law -- No 22,450 -- stated that the ordering of the state's structure had to enrich itself from the experience of its application in the search for a structure suitable for the requirements of a modern, active and efficient administration. The message points out that the time which has elapsed since then draws precise conclusions regarding amendments which must be introduced in order to achieve the proposed goals.

Law No 22,520 -- made public here today -- considers it fitting that the executive branch have a new tool that will secure unity, coherence and efficiency of government action in order to face this new stage in the national reorganization process. The new law retains the same ministries provided for in law No 22,450 except the ones in the fields of economy and education. Regarding the field of economy, which is at present being managed by five ministries, the new instrument provides for a restructuring, thus creating the Ministry of Economy and keeping the Ministry of Public Works and Services. The message goes on, saying that this is aimed at concentrating the economic decisions, thus preventing excessive deliberation which hinders speed and execution in adopting measures called for by the present situation.

Regarding the field of education, the new law provides for the modification of the present ministerial faculties, thus separating the educational ones from the cultural ones. The Ministry of Education will handle educational matters, while cultural matters will be attributed to the new Culture Secretariat, which will be directly subordinate to the president. The object of this is to assert the importance assigned to the cultural factor, while at the same time rescuing one of the main objectives of the national reorganization process, the consolidation of the cultural values and aspirations of the Argentine people.

The message mentions that in order to secure greater internal coordination and to prevent alterations in the present structures, the law has provided for the creation of secretariats -- not specified by the law -- in the Ministries of Economy and of Public Works and Services. The law also provides for the transfer of the state enterprises' auditing committees and of the Science and Technology Under Secretariat of the Ministry of Culture and Education to the jurisdiction of the presidency. The state enterprises' auditing committee will be subordinate to the president through the Planning Secretariat, so that the state enterprises' supervision will be centralized and placed above the levels of the ministries it is responsible for. The message goes on, saying that the inclusion of the Science and Technology Under Secretariat within the Planning Secretariat will secure [words indistinct] integration with the scientific and technological requirements called for by facilitating join drawing up of the respective objectives and policies within the same secretariat.

As members of the national cabinet, the ministries will have the following tasks:

1) To participate in the determination of political objectives; 2) to participate in the determination of national policies and strategies. 3) to participate in the assignment of priorities and in the approval of plans, programs and projects pursuant to what is set forth by the nationl planning system; 4) to participate in the approval of the national budget; 5) to report on activities inherent to their respective competence and which the executive branch considers of interest to the rest of the cabinet; and 6) to participate in all matters the executive branch submits for their consideration.

New Cabinet

PY221507 [Editorial report] Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish at 1418 GMT on 22 December carries the ceremony at which President Galtieri swears in his cabinet in the Salon Blanco of Government House. President Galtieri reads the oath of office to each of the following ministers:

Interior	Maj Gen Alfredo Oscar Saint Jean
Foreign	Nicanor Costa Mendez
Justice	Lucas Jaime Lennon
Defense	Amadeo Frugoli
Economy	Roberto Alemann
Public works and services	Sergio Martini
Education	Cayetano Antonio Licciardo
Public health	Horacio Rdoriguez Castells
Labor	Brig Gen Julio Cesar Porcile
Social Action	Vice Adm Carlos Alberto Lacoste

The presidential aide de camp reads presidential decrees installing the following presidential secretaries:

Presidential secretary	Brig Gen Hector Norberto Iglesias
Planning secretary	Brig Gen Jose Miret
Culture secretary	Julio Cesar Gancedo
Public information secretary	Rodolfo Baltierrez
State intelligence secretary	Maj Gen Carlos Alberto Martinez
National Atmoic Energy Commission chairman	Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero

POLICE RELEASE 9 HELD ON SUBVERSION CHARGES

PY230221 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1247 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Santa Fe, 22 Dec (NA) -- Nine of the 12 persons arrested last week for alleged breach of law No 20,840 on national security were released, notwithstanding the prosecution of the case ordered by Gen Juan Carlos Trimarco, commander of the 2d Corps.

The information released by Subregion 26 Headquarters adds that the released persons are Alcides Pecechi, Aroldo Scarpin, Orlando Stechina, Oreste Pividori, Calros Massin, Hugo Sager, Elida Hardy Zilli, Hector Nadalich and Deomar Oreste Sponton. The other three -- Jorge Osvaldo Della Rosa, Rodolfo Sellares and Reynaldo Bosch -- have been put at the disposal of the Santa Fe Federal Court.

All these persons were arrested in the General Obligado District, 400 km north of this capital, for alleged subversive activities.

TORRELIO RECEIVES REPRESENTATIVES OF MINERS

PY221439 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Excerpts] President Celso Torrelio Villa has urged the Bolivian people to maintain the atmosphere of social peace and understanding and has announced that the Christmas bonus for all miners will take into account the months of September, October and November, despite the strikes that took place during that period. The president made these remarks in a speech yesterday during a visit to Government House by the miners representatives from the public sector, and he urged the miners to work for the well-being, progress and development of the country.

Concerning the request for unrestricted amnesty submitted to the government by the miners, the president said: [Begin recording] I believe [words indistinct] on the unrestricted amnesty. Regarding this, I want to tell you the following: There are no reasons for imposing restrictions on all good Bolivians, on all good sons of this fatherland who want to live in Bolivia, who want to live in their homeland; but I believe all bad Bolivians, all those people who care only about their personal interests or for whom their ideology comes first and their fatherland second, should not be allowed to live in Bolivia. All of us Bolivians should think about the greatness of our fatherland, all of us Bolivians should think about defending our fatherland. Those who tarnish Bolivia's dignity and honor have no reason to live in Bolivia. [end recording]

The president said that he is not interested in any kind of electoral activity. [Begin recording] As a military officer and as a soldier, I am not engaged in any electoral activity, nor am I trying to secure anybody's support. What I want is the unification of the Bolivian family. What I want is to unite all Bolivians toward a single goal, the greatness and happiness of the Bolivian people. [end recording]

HUNGER STRIKES CONTINUING; SEVERAL UNDER ARREST

PY221723 Paris AFP in Spanish 1431 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] La Paz, 22 Dec (AFP) -- Despite the denials by Interior Minister Romulo Mercado Garnica, the Human Rights Commission reported here today that seven persons linked to the recent hunger strike in the country are still under detention.

It was explained in this regard that university professor Edgar Zapata and peasant leader Constancio Quijo are under detention and that peasants Estanislao Poma and Esteban Silvestre were detained yesterday morning.

It was indicated in Santa Cruz, 1,000 km east of here, that the persons detained during a brief hunger strike were taken to detention centers in La Paz. They are Luis Justiniano Eguez, Feliciano Mejia Butara and Altagracia Roda.

Finally, a group of approximately eight university students who are on a hunger strike inside the Methodist church in this city have announced that they will continue with the hunger strike, which began 5 days ago, until they win the general and unconditional amnesty.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REGRETS POLES' SUFFERING IN COUP

PY220305 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2314 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Brasilia, 21 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Brazilian Government today called on all Polish social forces to seek a solution to the crisis caused by the military coup staged in that country. An official declaration issued tonight by Itamaraty asserted that the Brazilian Government is following the Polish situation with interest and concern and regrets the suffering of the Polish people. It also expressed its hope that all the social forces will be able to overcome the situation peacefully as soon as possible, resorting to their own means and without any foreign interference.

On being consulted on the status of the debt Poland owes to Brasil, Minister Bernardo Pericas -- official spokesman of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry -- asserted: We expect the debt will be cancelled within the terms agreed on. Poland has a debt to Brazil of about $1 billion. In October Antoni Karas, Polish deputy foreign trade minister, came here and an agreement was reached regarding payment of amortization and interest effective as of 1982.

MAJOR WEAPONS DEAL WITH IRAQ EXPECTED IN 1982

PY221620 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Dec 81 p 25

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo -- The Brazilian arms industry will begin 1982 with the possibility of signing two international contracts for the supply of weapons and spare parts to Iraq, the largest trade operation carried out by Brazil in this sector, involving approximately $620 million, more than 30 percent of overall exports this year.

By the end of this month the Brazilian weapons industry will reach its objective of doubling its exports, reaching a total of $2 billion, which places Brazil among the five major world producers of weapons.

The largest contract has been under negotiation for some time now by AVIBRAS, headquartered in San Jose dos Campos, and will involve approximately $500 million, for the purchase of several types of missiles -- from the SBAT to the X-100--machinegun pods for planes and helicopters, and spare parts. The contract provides for the delivery of the weapons within a period of 4 years, and there is also the possibility that Iraq will place new orders similar to the deal with ENGESA.

The Brazilian military industry is currently made up of more than 100 enterprises with approximately 100,000 specialized workers and technicians, manufacturing everything from uniforms, canteens, binoculars and small-caliber weapons to armored vehicles, helicopters, missiles, missile launchers and military aircraft. In the 1980's Brazil will gain greater interational respect in the field of weapons with the emergence of two new sophisticated products: the AMX subsonic fighter, with a capacity for 1.5 tons of bombs, and rockets, which will be manufactured by a consortium made up of EMBRAER [Brazilian Aeronautics Company], Aeritalia and Aermacchi.

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM RESERVES -- The national petroleum reserves reached 1,444,000,000 barrels in 1981, an increase of 7.8 percent compared to the previous year. According to PETROBRAS President Shigeaki Ueki, daily production amounts to 220,000 barrels. Regarding estimates for 1982, there are disagreements between PETROBRAS and the Mines and Energy Ministry. [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Dec 81 PY]

FSLN, FMLN DISPUTE HURTS SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

PA171952 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Dec 81 p 1A

[By Jose Montano]

[Text] The Latin American Branch of the Socialist International this week experienced difficult, and until yesterday insurmountable, ideological differences with its friends in Nicaragua and the Salvadoran liberation insurgents. One of its spokesmen asserted that the organization seems prepared to put conditions on its aid and political power so that Nicaragua and its FSLN will maintain their promise to permit political and ideological pluralism, a mixed economy and an international position of nonalignment.

According to reports, the situation seems to be getting worse as the leaders of the Socialist International -- Carolos Andres Perez and Francisco Pena Gomez, together with Spanish leader Felipe Gonzalez, who was appointed president of the Socialist International's committee for defense of the Sandinist revolution -- continue their trips to Havana, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Mexico.

The Latin American branch of the Socialist International in Panama 1 week ago initiated meetings to analyze the Central American situation, especially in Nicaragua and El Salvador, but met the insurmountable obstacle of an increasing ideological polarization of the Central American liberation processes, especially with the Salvadoran guerrillas and the conduct of radical FSLN sectors.

Felipe Gonzalez is expected to arrive today.

Knowledgeable sources said yesterday that the Latin American branch of the Socialist International has held talks with politicians of every political persuasion, including Cuban officials in Havana and U.S. officials in Panama.

HIGHER CANAL TOLLS SEEN DUE TO INFLATION

PA172012 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 17 Dec 81 p 1A

[By Robert R. Rodriguez]

[Excerpts] The increase in tolls for ships transiting the Panama Canal, scheduled for October 1982, will allow the Canal Commssion to reach "a point of equilibrium" with respect to its operation, management and maintenance of the waterway, the deputy canal administrator, Fernando Manfredo, has told MATUTINO.

"We need to correct the canal tolls," Manfredo said. He pointed out that this is because inflation has been greater than the traffic increase over the past years, and because the increase in tolls will compensate for revenue losses due to the oil pipeline being built in the eastern part of the country.

In Manfredo's personal opinion, there will be an increase in tolls every 2 years, but these will be minor ones, since there will continue to be double-digit inflation and business will increase at a rate of 3 percent.

The deputy canal administrator made it clear that this increase scheduled for 1982 has nothing to do with the deficit in canal operations during the fiscal year that has just ended. He said the increase in tolls will be due to a "correction of tolls" to account for inflation and to a "compensation" for the income the canal will cease to receive from oil shipments coming from Alaska.

Manfredo said it is logical to assume that the consumer will be paying for the toll increase in the end, but that the amount will be "insignificant." Referring to the negative impact of this increase in tolls on the economies of countries using the canal, he said the amount will have very little impact on the total price of goods.

EL SALVADOR

ARMED FORCES ON SPECIAL ALERT DURING HOLIDAYS

PA222254 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 22 Dec 81 pp 2, 28

[Excerpt] Tight security measures throughout the country have been ordered by the armed forces during the Christmas and new year's holidays. Security measures will be more intensive in the capital and provincial capitals, roads and rural areas. All places where there are public services, such as power plants, aqueducts, transportation facilities, bridges, shopping centers and so forth, will be patrolled around the clock. The purpose is to guarantee safety to all Salvadorans so that they can enjoy the holiday season.

FMLN LEADERS PLEDGE TO CONTINUE FIGHTING

PA222132 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] The FMLN of El Salvador has reiterated that it will continue its armed struggle prior, during and after the elections as long as the present terror and genocide exist in El Salvador. A communique disseminated by AGENCIA INDEPENDIENTE DE PRENSA describes the elections scheduled by the junta for March and encouraged by the United States as the most barefaced symbol of deceit. The declaration is signed by Commanders Joaquin Villalobos, Ferman Cienfuegos, Salvador Cayetano Carpio, Shafick Jorge Handal and Roberto Roca, members of the FMLN General Command.

The Salvadoran revolutionary leaders also reiterate their absolute determination to seek a political solution to pave the way for an end to the armed conflict in that country. Assessing the year that is about to end, the FMLN General Command feels that the Salvadoran people have defeated the first stage of the U.S. intervention plan in El Salvador. The declaration says this achievement is confirmed by the fact that the regime launched an average of three offensives every 30 days in areas where the guerrillas are active in the country during 1981 but all of these were repelled by the FMLN fighters. The guerrilla forces feel that the international situation is also favorable to the Salvadoran people. In this connection, they mentioned the UN resolution of 16 December, which includes a statement in favor of a political settlement of the internal conflict in that Central American country.

GOVERNMENT APPROVES PROVISIONAL ELECTORAL LAW

PA230316 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 21 Dec 81 pp 1, 21

[Excerpts] The provisional electoral law, just as it was presented to the political parties at Presidential House not long ago, was just approved and tomorrow or the next day the Electoral Council will issue a call to elections so the people can vote for a constituent assembly on 28 March. This statement was made this morning to one of our reporters by the chairman of the Central Electoral Council, Jorge Bustamante, when he was asked about the reported approval of the electoral law by the government junta.

The provisional electoral law contains, Bustamante said, the organization of the Central Electoral Council, with three members, and the parties have 8 days, ending on 26 December, to present their candidate lists to the council, which will be a new one, or the same one if the junta so decrees, if the parties do not present candidates. After elections are called, parties in agreement with the provisional electoral law can participate in the elections if they so desire. They can abstain if they do not agree with the regulations included in the law and which they, except for the Christian Democratic Party and the Renewal Action Party, have opposed. The campaign will start 2 months prior to the electoral date, set for 28 March 1982. On 28 January all parties wishing to participate in the electoral joust can carry out any activities in reference to their participation in the elections. Bustamante said that no one will be invited to come to supervise the elections. The invitations are clearly to observe, not to supervise.

NICARAGUA

AIRPORT EXPANSION FOR MIG-21 OPERATIONS REPORTED

PA230036 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2245 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government is expanding and updating several airports close to Honduras in order to accomodate the operation of Soviet MIG-21 combat aircraft, Tegucigalpa's LA PRENSA says today. According to the editorial, the airports are located in Puerto Cabezas and Bluefields on the Atlantic and (Puerto Cabezas Morazan) in the south, close to Honduras.

LA PRENSA said Nicaragua will receive 24 MIG-21's from the Soviet Union shortly to reinforce the Sandinist military machine, which is at this moment the most impressive in Central America. It is a matter of surpassing the defense capacity of Honduras, the most advanced country in the region, militarily speaking. It has been estimated that the Nicaraguan arms race is not for defensive purposes because neither Honduras nor Costa Rica intend to, or could, invade Nicaragua.

PARTIES ISSUE DOCUMENT ON DEFENSE OF REVOLUTION

PA230156 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] After discussing the defense and consolidation of the revolutionary process, the organizations participating in the national reflection meeting have reached a number of conclusions and made the following recommendations:

Whereas, the Somozist dictatorship was overthrown when various forces and sectors, setting aside their differences, were able to unify and agree on a feasible plan; whereas, this victory of all the Nicaraguans opened the doors to a revolutionary process of great changes, which gave the people a broader and substantial participation, whose aim is to provide our people a better living standard; whereas, for the first time in the history of Nicaragua, we have the opportunity to build a new social, economic and political order, based on a real concept of social justice, from which the people and their organizations will benefit; whereas, there is a need to consolidate and defend the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, because it represents victory over Somozism and its allies, and also the right to build a new fatherland in the manner that the Nicaraguans conceived and want it to be; whereas, the consolidation and defense of the Nicaraguan revolution should be conceived as a whole, each sector of the revolutionary process must participate in the defense of the revolution; 23, therefore, recommend to the government and other active sectors in the country that:

1. Every Nicaraguan and all political, social, workers, religious and cultural organizations have the obligation to defend the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, because they are defending the greatest achievement in our history.

2. The consolidation and defense of the revolutionary process should be carried out in the economic, military and diplomatic fields, and also in the state administration, and particularly in the political field, because defense is a political problem.

3. The principles of nonintervention and self-determination of the peoples, especially of Nicaragua, be firmly supported in agreement with article 1 of the international agreement on economic, social and cultural rights, which says all peoples have the right to self-determination, which gives them the freedom to establish their political, economic, social and cultural policies.

4. All forms of aggression or invasion against our country and any imperialist attempt to impose political or economic conditions based on our national reconstruction needs be condemned and rejected.

5. The government be urgently reorganized along the lines of national unity, of an honest state administration, which will increase the pace of national reconstruction.

6. In order to create the right climate for national unity and broad cooperation for the defense of the revolution, we suggest that some areas which could be the cause of great injustice should be revised. It is also necessary to establish more definite rules for the future. Therefore, we suggest the revision and change of methods that some local authorities are putting in practice regarding pluralism.

7. An amnesty plan that is truly effective should be issued.

8. In order to unite the people and their organizations in a serious effort for the total defense of the revolutionary process, all political, social, workers and cultural sectors, particularly the FSLN, which holds the political and military power, must observe a real opening as the best defense of the revolution.

Managua, 19 December 1981; the Peoples Social Christian Party, the Social Democratic Party, the Liberal Independent Party, the Social Christian Party, the Nicaraguan Workers Federation and the Single Federation of Sandinist Workers.

ALFONSO ROBELO ANALYZES SITUATION IN COUNTRY

PA230301 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Orion Elpidio Pastora interview with Alfonso Robelo, chairman of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board and leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement -- date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Robelo] Thank you for the opportunity to speak once again here, in our beloved Nicaragua, where we are struggling to place the country on the road of democracy, justice and freedom. I am very satisfied with yesterday's meeting of the leaders of the different labor unions and political organizations of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board. If we analyze the meeting we can see that a cross section of Nicaragua was present. It was a multiclass meeting; that is to say, representatives of all the social classes were there. There were workers, small businessmen of both rural and urban areas, peasants, professionals, businessmen, politicians -- in short -- there was a cross section of Nicaraguan society. What were they asking for? They were asking for unity; for the unity of all true Nicaraguans to try to save our fatherland from an economic and political situation that is worsening daily. It seemed to me that there was a feeling of great patriotism, of great optimism for the future, coming from a group representative of the Nicaraguan people. They were speaking clearly, pointing out the mistakes of the past and the problems of the present, but willing to put all of this aside to look toward the future. Not willing to surrender at any time, however, and always maintaining a set of principles which are not to be toyed with, and which we are going to uphold until we attain the democratic objective that I mentioned at the beginning.

[Question] Engineer Robelo, you have just mentioned the word unity. The unity of the Nicaraguan people has to include the acceptance of diverse groups and institutions [words indistinct] several political factors and [word indistinct] in the country. Doesn't this unity necessarily involve a serious talk with the FSLN?

[Answer] Yes, definitely. I was saying that [words indistinct] is to talk without surrendering -- and I stress without surrendering -- without giving up basic, fundamental principles and without abandoning ideals. I am willing to talk to any Nicaraguan who is willing to put the interests of the fatherland above all. I believe that within the FSLN there are leaders who have these concepts and with whom one can speak. Honesty speaking, there is a problem of a credibility gap between the two sectors, government and opposition, caused perhaps by an attitude that has created situations such as attacks on buildings, on party headquarters and on our private homes, which already shows a worrisome deterioration.

Within all of this, I believe we should find intelligent formulas to fill this credibility gap. The interests of the fatherland, which are in serious danger at this time, must lead us to an attitude of reflection, maturity and soul-searching so that without deceiving ourselves, with honesty, frankness and courage, we can face the country's problems and find Nicaraguan solutions to overcome them.

[Question] In your speech yesterday you talked about your trip to Europe, where you talked to Western democratic leaders, just as you did in Latin America. We would like to hear your opinion regarding the way these leaders view the Nicaraguan revolution.

[Answer] There is a common stand among all these leaders. They are aware that the Nicaraguan revolution awakened hopes in the world. There was overwhelming support for the original project, for the concept expressed in the government plan for national reconstruction. However, following the developments in the country, these leaders have expressed some worry. The majority of them do not want to desert the Nicaraguan revolution and are willing to continue giving their solidarity and support to the original plan and material aid to the people. All these developments start creating worries and doubts, and this should make us think. That is, all of us who locally are trying to see how can we rebuild and rechannel the country along the line of a true democracy.

[Question] You said in your speech yesterday that 1982 was going to be a decisive year politically and economically for Nicaragua. Since it will be a decisive year politically and economically for our country, I guess the coordinating board you preside over has some specific plans. Can you tell us of the activities it will carry out next year?

[Answer] Its first activity will be the 10 January march, with which we are going to commemorate another anniversary of the death of our leaders Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal and Luis Medrano Florez. This will be followed by anumber of events in which we will maintain the position which I think we must maintain at all time, that is, a true revolutionary concept within an opposition to the way the revolution is being led, always maintaining a constructive attitude on issues on which we disagree. We also wish to promote a true pluralism. We have political parties and labor organizations in which there has to be pluralism. We cannot talk about pluralism when the official party controls the television 100 percent and all the state apparatus, and does as it pleases, while the democratic revolutionary parties, which disagree with the leadership of revolution, do not have the means, because of the government's obstacles, to carry out demonstrations and access to the television and to other facilities which are served on silver tray to the government's party. The pluralism we have is a fake pluralism, not real. We on the Democratic Coordinating Board will try in the labor and political fields with actions and facts to make pluralism something balanced in which all forces are equal, in which the FSLN and the other parties have the same rights.

[Question] Do you wish to add anything else?

[Answer] I think we cannot waste any more time. As a matter of fact 1982 is a decisive year in the economic field. The reports I received yesterday on my return to Nicaragua regarding the agricultural field left me seriously worried. Apparently the coffee harvest, which is going well, is far below last year's. The cotton harvest is meeting some obstacles, but it also is not as good as last year's. This puts the country in a very complicated situation, more difficult, more worrying. In the political field, although in the past 5 or 6 weeks there has been more maturity and cooperation from the official news media, and there has been tranquillity in the country, there are also matters which are cause of unrest, such as the anti-Somozist political prisoners, who apparently will spend Christmas in prison. This is an issue that every anti-Somozist and revolutionary Nicaraguan, in the real meaning of word revolutionary, would not like to see happen. Let us hope that in Nicaragua we will have a Christmas without anti-Somozist prisoners.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO OPEN SESSION 28 DECEMBER

FL221237 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] The People's Government National Assembly will meet next Monday [28 December] to open the second legislative session. The 499 deputies elected recently by the municipal assembly will be sworn in during this session and immediately afterward will proceed to elect the president, vice president and secretary of the state's highest body.

Likewise, they will select the members of the Council of State, which represents the National Assembly between legislative sessions. Following that, the president of the Council of State, who also heads the government, will submit a proposal and the assembly will approve the members of the Council of Ministers, the highest executive and administrative body of the nation.

COOPERATION PACT FOR 1982-84 SIGNED WITH NICARAGUA

FL221910 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Cuba and Nicaragua signed a cooperation agreement today in Havana for the 1982-84 period between the foreign ministries of the two countries. The document was signed by Ricardo Alarcon and Victor Tinoco, vice foreign ministers of Cuba and Nicaragua, respectively. Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign minister, also attended the ceremony. The agreement includes, among other things, exchange of experience in the protocol and press sectors, matters pertaining to the Nonaligned Movement, development of bilateral relations and matters pertaining to other sectors of mutual interest.

During his stay in Cuba, the Nicaraguan vice minister was received by Malmierca and had meetings with a delegation from the Cuban Foreign Ministry, headed by Ricardo Alarcon. Julio (Icaza), chief of the Latin America desk of the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, also attended the meetings.

MPSP RETIRES ELENA GIL, NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

FL221945 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] The Secretariat of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has decided to free Elena Gil from her responsibility as president of that organization. The meeting at which the decision was made was attended by Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo and member of the Central Committee Secretariat.

The participants recognized the extraordinary efforts of Comrade Gil, who, while facing failing health, gave her best to ensure the functioning of the organization and the successful achievement of its goals under her personal responsibility. In a meeting with MPSP workers, Jesus Montane praised Elena Gil's career, her revolutionary integrity, her communist role and her loyalty to the party and to the socialist cause.

The MPSP Secretariat approved the designation of Comrade Severo Aguirre del Cristo, member of the Central Committee and the Council of State, as president of that organization. Severo Aguirre recently completed a tour as Cuban ambassador to the USSR.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

BRIEFS

NEW BANK NOTE -- Georgetown, Grand Cayman, 22 Dec (CANA) -- Vassel Johnson, finance secretary and chairman of the Currency Board, has announced that the Cayman Islands Government has put in to circulation a new 100 dollar bank note. The Cayman dollar is worth $1.20 and the new note has been put into circulation to help with the payment of salaries and the demand for higher denomination notes. [Bridgetown CANA in English 1448 GMT 22 Dec 81 FL]

DOMINICA

POLICE CHIEF FLOWN OUT; NO FURTHER ARRESTS MADE

FL230000 Roseau Domestic Service in English 2235 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Dominica's police commissioner, Oliver Phillips, shot in the head during last Saturday's attempted coup, was today flown over to a neighboring French island for medical treatment as police have continued investigations into the predawn bid to unseat the government of Prime Minister Eugenia Charles. Hospital authorities confirmed that Mr Phillips had been sent abroad for surgery on his jaw, damaged after his car crashed into a house after he was shot during the assault on police headquarters.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Abraham Georges) told reporters that no more arrests had so far been made. As the police continue the investigations, they have questioned a number of people, including possible witnesses to the early-morning attack. Four people have so far been detained, three of them former members of the now disbanded Dominica Defense Force, including its commander, Maj Frederick Newton. The deputy commissioner said it was possible that the four men would appear in a magistrate's court within 21 days to answer charges to be laid against them. The police said the four men were held under the emergency regulations which allow the authorities to detain people without formal charges against them while investigations are still being carried out. The hospital today said that the other people injured on Saturday were improving. So far only one has been discharged.

LEFTIST DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN COUP ATTEMPT

FL222055 Bridgetown CANA in English 2018 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, 22 Dec (CANA) -- A top official in Dominica's Liberation Movement Alliance (DLMA), Bill Riviere, said today that his leftist group had nothing to do with last weekend's attempted overthrow of the Eugenia Charles government. Mr Riviere, who attended last week's congress of the communist Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ) here, told CANA that his group was not involved in the weekend action. He said that in fact he had received little information on what had happened.

Mr Riviere, however, accused Miss Charles' Dominica Freedom Party (DFP) government of human rights violations, and feared that the prime minister would use the weekend episode for repression. "What I hope doesn't happen is that she uses the alleged plot as an excuse for further repression," he added. Evidence of human rights violations, he claimed, included the passing of an antiterrorist law under which 12 youths had been killed in recent months with no evidence whatever that they were terrorists. The police had openly been praised by the government for its action, he said. There was also a general harassment of government opponents, and up-turning of the public service and moves against unions and students, Mr Riviere said.

Mr Riviere said that because of the economic dilemma and the "increasingly harsh actions of the government," the Dominican people were becoming restive, and he predicted the kinds of demonstrations and mass actions that led to the fall of the Patrick John regime in 1979. He however, feared that in such circumstances, because of a "growing rightwing axis in the region" the Barbados Defence Force would intervene in Dominica, similar to how the Barbadian leader, Tom Adams, sent troops to St Vincent during a rebel uprising in 1980.

ROSEAU TO HOST CARICOM ENERGY CONFERENCES

FL221553 Bridgetown CANA in English 1435 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, 22 Dec (CANA) -- Dominica says it will be the venue for two important meetings of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) early in the new year. A government information service release said that the first will be a ministerial conference on energy, scheduled for February 4-5. A meeting of officials will precede the minister's conference, following which there is to be a seminar for public sector energy planners and officials.

The seminar is intended to bring participants up to date on the energy situation in the Caribbean. One of its objectives is to equip participants to become more effective policy planners in the energy sector. The statement said they will discuss CARICOM energy issues, with a view to coming up with strategies for dealing with the situation.

The second CARICOM conference here is planned for February 8-9, by the standing committee of ministers of industry. No agenda is yet available for that meeting, which is to be preceded by a session of Caribbean industrial planners on February 6 and 7.

JAMAICA

PNP YOUTH GROUP ELECTS PAUL BURKE CHAIRMAN

FL221451 Bridgetown CANA in English 1433 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 22 Dec (CANA) -- Paul Burke, a Jamaican who figured in the controversy that led to Jamaica's October 29 diplomatic break with Cuba, has been re-elected chairman of the youth wing of the opposition People's National Party (PNP).

In September police here said that they had held Burke with a tape recording that had the voice of wanted local criminal Anthony Brown, and indicating that he was in Cuba. Other letters also taken from Burke suggested that Jamaican criminals were in Cuba receiving training in terrorism, the government later said. Both Burke and his party have denied the police and government charges. Burke was not charged with an offence.

The out-going secretary of the PNP youth organisation, Sheldon McDonald, said Burke's re-election was the youth wing's answer to the governments' allegations.

BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA -- Kingston, Jamaica, 22 Dec (CANA) -- It has been announced here that Jamaica and Indonesia have established diplomatic relations. The Foreign Ministry has reported that the formal signing took place in New York on 17 December. The document was signed by Jamaica's UN ambassador, Sir Egerton Richardson, and his Indonesian counterpart, Abdullah Kamil. [Bridgetown CANA in English 1440 GMT 22 Dec 81 FL]

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ANDEAN PARLIAMENT ENDS SESSIONS IN QUITO

PA211328 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The establishment of the Simon Bolivar Andean University and the ratification of the treaty on the Andean Court of Justice are the main short-term objectives of the Andean Parliament. The parliament, which includes legislators of the five member countries of the Cartagena Agreement, ended its second period of sessions this weekend. It urged that the integration process move from words to deeds, implementing the established programs and carrying out an effective policy in favor of Ecuador and Bolivia, countries with lower levels of development.

CHILE

MIR, COMMUNISTS JOIN TO 'UNLEASH ARMED STRUGGLE'

PY230025 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2353 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] EL REBELDE, a clandestine publication of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], in its latest edition published an article confirming the MIR's alliance with the Communist Party to unleash an armed struggle in Chile.

BRIEFS

COPPER PRODUCTION DOWN -- Chilean copper production has decreased this year by 0.6 percent. Last year Chilean copper production totaled 884,900 metric tons, while this year it totaled 879,600. metric tons. The large mining sector registered a decrease of 2 percent. Last year Chilean copper production in this sector totaled 746,000 metric tons, while this year it totaled 731,000 metric tons. There was, however, a 7 percent increase in copper production in the small and medium copper sector. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 Dec 81 PY]

COLOMBIA

TURBAY SAYS SUBVERSION HAS FOREIGN SUPPORT

PA221922 Bogota Radio Santa Fe in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala again today charged intervention by foreign countries who encourage and support the guerrilla groups operating in Colombia. Turbay made this statement in Valledupar while dedicating a branch of the Cattle Bank which will benefit the region. Here is an exoerpt of his speech:

[Begin recording] We are going to make these rules compulsory and we hope they will have a pacifying effect. However, I want to take advantage of this opportunity to tell my compatriots that I am not convinced that the subversion currently underway in Colombia is exclusively a national movement. In my opinion, there are external factors involved: foreign aid and the objectives of the exporters of revolutionary movements who want to create unrest, sow chaos and enthrone anarchy in our fatherland. That is why I call not only on those who put me in power but also on Colombians of all the political parties to do something great for the peace of the fatherland. [end recording]

MEXICO

NATIONAL SECURITY PLAN EXPECTED IN FEBRUARY

FL230023 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2115 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Navy Secretary Ricardo Chazaro Lara said today that national defense must get the same priority as other national programs, and for this reason the Mexican Navy would be submitting the national security plan to

President Jose Lopez Portillo in February. All countries in the world except Costa Rica and Mexico have a national defense program specifying requirements and how resources should be employed to defend the nation.

The Navy Secretariat has 18 patrol boats and 16 minesweepers in addition to other Aztec-type patrol boats in operation. It expects to increase equipment by 10 percent and efficiency by more than 20 percent. Beginning in February, the Mexican Navy will have six new patrol boats built in Spain at a cost of 103 million pesos. These boats are equipped for patrol duties and each one is assigned a helicopter. They are also three times faster than those now in operation.

Chazaro said two "Jaring"-type [as received] destroyers will arrive in February from the United States to be used for patrol and training. The destroyers can carry 250 men each and their cost is unusally low (375,000 dollars).

Moreover, the Navy Secretariat will have its own building. It is being built by the Secretariat of Human Settlements and Public Works on former communal land in Santiago Tlepetlapa, Coyoacan. However, occupation date is not yet known.

Last, the navy secretary said he has 29,000 men and that the budget approved by the Federal Government is sufficient and meets the present needs of the secretariat.

VENEZUELA

LEFTIST FORCES DIFFER ON EVENTS IN POLAND

PA210310 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0117 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Caracas, 20 Dec (EFE) -- The Military intervention in Poland has introduced a new factor of discord among the Venezuelan leftist parties. On the eve of the initiation of the domestic electoral process, involving the selection of a single candidate for the 1983 elections, the Polish situation has disturbed the leftists' plans for unification.

The interpretations given by the leftist leaders to the Polish military intervention are not alike, and this has already caused the first rift in potential electoral unity. While the leaders of the Communist Party of Venezuela (PCV) have expressed support for the military intervention in Poland, leaders of other Marxist organizations have voiced their total disagreement with it.

OFFICIAL DENIES RESURGENCE OF GUERRILLA ACTIVITY

PA221317 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0319 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] Caracas, 21 Dec (EFE) -- Through the deputy interior minister, Enrique Aristiguieta, the Venezuelan Government denied today that there is a resurgence of guerrilla activity in the country.

In a statement to journalists, Deputy Minister Aristiguieta said the group that recently attacked three towns in eastern Venezuela is made up of a small number of people. According to the government official, the head of this group has been identified as Gabriel Puerta Aponte, who is considered a "holdup man." Aristiguieta noted that the attacks on the small eastern towns were perpetrated by only one group. He described the group's actions as "common crimes."

The deputy minister denied that the group in question had anything to do with the recent hijacking of three planes at Maiquetia airport.